

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barry Gammon
Serial No.: 10/783,812
Filed: February 20, 2004
For: SOCKET WITH OFF-CENTER SLOT
Examiner: Hadi Shakeri
Art Unit: 3723 Confirmation No. 7060

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I am the representative for the above-referenced Applicant. On May 19, 2006, I checked the Private PAIR PTO website regarding the status of the referenced application. At that time I discovered that the examiner had entered an Examiner's Reply in response to Applicant's Appeal Brief. The Examiner's Reply was dated for some time in March 2006. I have never received the Examiner's Reply in the mail. I learned in reviewing the electronic file for this application that the mailed Reply had been returned undelivered. It appears that no mailing address was placed on the mailing envelope by the Patent Office.

I immediately called the examiner, Mr. Shakeri, and stated that I had not received his Reply by mail. He indicated at that time that he would check on the mailing and have it re-sent. He also stated that the deadline for filing a response would not begin until the Reply had been re-mailed with a new mailing date. I believed at that time that the matter would be resolved.

On May 30, 2006, I checked Private PAIR again and learned that the status of the file had not changed. In addition, I noted that I had not yet received the re-sent mailing. I immediately called Mr. Shakeri and informed him that there had been no change in status. He repeated his earlier statement that he would work to resolve the problem and have the Reply mailed as required. He also confirmed that the deadline for filing a response to his Reply would be dependent upon the date of the proper mailing to be made and not upon the date of the failed mailing in March.

Today, June 27, 2006, I checked again Private PAIR regarding the status of this application. Again, there has been no change in status. The last entry indicates that the March

mailing was undelivered and no attempt appears to have been made to correct that PTO error. Therefore, by this communication, I ask that the examiner or the responsible person in the applicable art unit be instructed to mail the Examiner's Reply to Applicant's Appeal Brief to me, the Applicant's representative, at the earliest time possible. I also ask that the file properly reflect Applicant's deadline for responding to the Examiner's Reply as starting on the date of that proper mailing.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Chris A. Caseiro

Chris A. Caseiro, Reg. No. 34,304
Attorney for Applicant
Verrill Dana, LLP
One Portland Square
Portland, ME 04112-0586
Tel. No. 207-253-4530

Certificate of Submission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being submitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 27, 2006, using the US Patent Office's Electronic Business System. I hereby request that it be assigned a filing date of June 27, 2006.

/s/ Chris A. Caseiro
Chris A. Caseiro